CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 25-27, 29-36, 66, and 68.

- After this Amendment: Claims 25-27, 29-33, 66, and 68.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: 34-36.

Amended claims: 25 and 27.

New claims: none .

Claims:

Claims 1-24 are CANCELED.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method facilitating protection of digital signals, the method comprising:

partitioning a digital signal into segments by pseudorandomly segmenting the signal;

for one or more segments:

- calculating statistics of a segment that are representative of that segment;

- quantizing such statistics of a segment;

generating a marked signal equivalent to a combination of the digital signal and the combination of the quantized statistics of the one or more segments,

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wherein the generating comprises embedding a watermark via quantization index modulation (QIM).

26. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 25 further comprising normalizing amplitude of a digital signal, wherein such signal is an original, unmarked signal.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 25 further comprising transforming the digital signal.

28. (CANCELED)

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 25, wherein such segments are adjacent and non-contiguous.

30. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 25, wherein the statistics of the calculating comprises one or more finite order moments of a segment.

31. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 25 further comprising determining a delta-sequence that is representative of the combination of the quantized statistics of the one or more segments.

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32. (ORIGINAL)   A method as recited in claim **25** further comprising determining a pseudorandom delta-sequence that when combined with the digital signal approximate a combination of the digital signal and the quantized statistics of the one or more segments.

33. (ORIGINAL)   A method as recited in claim **25**, wherein the generating comprises embedding a watermark via quantization index modulation (QIM).

34. (CANCELLED)

35. (CANCELLED)

36. (CANCELLED)

Claims 37-65 are CANCELED.

66. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A system for facilitating the protection of digital signals, the system comprising:

a partitioner configured to segment a digital signal by pseudorandomly segmenting the digital signal;;

a segment-statistics calculator configured to calculate statistics of a segment that are representative of that segment;

a segment quantizer configured to quantize such statistics of a segment

a signal marker configured to generate a marked signal equivalent to a combination of the digital signal and the combination of the quantized statistics of the one or more segments.

67.   (CANCELED)

68.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A system as recited in claim 66, wherein such segments are adjacent and non-contiguous.

Claims 69 and 70 are CANCELED.